



# U P D A T E

## St. Lucie County

June 15, 2007

### A Monthly Update of Current Events and Happenings within St. Lucie

#### *In this Issue:*

- Special Meetings & Workshops Scheduled
- Lakewood Park Regional Park Ribbon Cutting
- Brick Sale
- Early Voting
- Water Restrictions
- Oxbow Eco-Center Events

This update is published monthly by the St. Lucie County Board of County Commissioners' Public Information Office. Direct inquiries to Ja' Net Pentz, Executive Assistant St. Lucie County 2300 Virginia Avenue Fort Pierce, FL 34982 772.462.1453 pentzj@co.st-lucie.fl.us

### Board of County Commissioners Special Meetings & Workshops Scheduled

- The Lennard Road PD&E Public Hearing will be held on June 28, 2007 at Indian River Community College's Koblebard Student Union building. The informal open house will begin at 6 p.m. and the formal presentation will begin at 7 p.m. Public comment will follow.
- The Regular County Commission Meetings on Tuesday, July 10, 2007 and Tuesday, July 17, 2007 have been canceled due to lack of quorum.
- The Board of County Commissioners 2008 Budget Workshops will begin Thursday, July 19, 2007 and run through Wednesday, July 25, 2007 in Conference Room 3.
- The Board of County Commissioners will hold a Budget Millage Adoption Meeting on Tuesday, July 31, 2007 at 9 a.m.
- The Board of County Commissioners will hold a Preliminary Budget Public Hearing on Thursday, September 6, 2007 at 6 p.m.
- The Board of County Commissioners will hold a Final Budget Public Hearing on Thursday, September 13, 2007 at 6 p.m.

### Lakewood Park Regional Park Ribbon Cutting

St. Lucie County's Parks & Recreation Department will celebrate the opening of its newest and largest facility Thursday, June 21 from 5 - 7 p.m. with the ribbon cutting of the Lakewood Park Regional Park. Located off Emerson Road in northern St. Lucie County, the Lakewood Park Regional Park is comprised of 157-acres offering both active and passive recreational opportunities. In collaboration with St. Lucie County's Environmental Resources Department, the Parks & Recreation staff designed the new park to appeal to a wide variety of residents from youth baseball teams to nature enthusiasts. The Lakewood Park Regional Park features four softball/baseball fields, four soccer/football fields, a 117,000-gallon, zero-entry swimming pool, a splash park, a playground, covered picnic areas and two miles of paved and unpaved trails for jogging, biking and walking. The ribbon-cutting ceremony will include children's activities, open swimming, pool games, a bounce house, field games (3-on-3 soccer; pitch, hit and run baseball and punt, pass and catch football), tours of the hiking trail and more. Funding for this \$13.2 million facility came from Park Referendum Money (MSTU), FRDAP, Investment for the Future funds and a grant from the Florida Communities Trust. Glatting and Jackson served as the plan designers; while engineering for the park was designed by Hazen and Sawyer. Construction was handled by Recreational Design and Construction, Inc. For more information about the Lakewood Park Regional Park and all its amenities, call the St. Lucie County Parks & Recreation staff at (772) 462-1517.

### Building a Bridge to Tallahassee

On June 12, 2007, while state legislators began the first day of their special session in Tallahassee to discuss property tax reform, Treasure Coast government employees held a rally to send bricks to Tallahassee legislators and the governor, which represents the bridge that needs to be built between the state and local governments. Employees had the opportunity to purchase a solid, red brick, write a message to their state delegation and governor and mail that brick to Tallahassee at a cost of \$2. This event was organized after a county employee made the suggestion during a staff meeting regarding the tax reform issue with commissioners and the county administrator.

### Early Voting Underway for June 26 Trauma Referendum

Early Voting for the Trauma Care Referendum Election is underway and will run through June 23. This is a very important election for homeowners in St. Lucie County as it will create a Municipal Services Taxing Unit in St. Lucie County. The hours are Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. at all three Supervisor of Elections offices. All registered voters in St. Lucie County can take advantage of this convenient way to cast their vote, prior to Election Day. In addition to early voting all voters are eligible to vote by mail with an absentee ballot. To request a ballot, call the Elections office at 462-1500. The polls will be open on Election Day from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Make sure your address is up-to-date by calling the office, prior to Election Day. You must show both photo and signature identification when you go to vote. If you do not have ID, you must vote a provisional ballot. Early voting places include:

WALTON ROAD  
COUNTY ADMINISTRATION ANNEX  
[1664 SE Walton Rd., Room #214](#)  
[Port St. Lucie, Florida 34952](#)

ST. LUCIE WEST  
COUNTY ADMINISTRATION ANNEX  
[250 NW Country Club Dr.](#)  
[Port St. Lucie, Florida 34986](#)

SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS OFFICES  
ORANGE BLOSSOM MALL  
[4132 Okeechobee Rd](#)  
[Fort Pierce, Florida 34947](#)  
Phone: (772) 462-1500  
Fax: (772) 462-1439

### St. Lucie County Lifts Burn Ban, Phase II Watering Restrictions Still In Place

The burn in St. Lucie County has been lifted, but water restrictions are still in place. The South Florida Water Management District has begun restricting irrigation to two days a week for both Martin and St. Lucie County residents. Residents with less than five acres in the unincorporated areas of St. Lucie County and addresses ending in odd numbers may only irrigate their lawns Wednesdays and Saturdays between 4 a.m. – 8 a.m. Hand watering is permitted on those days between 5 p.m. - 7 p.m. with an automatic shut-off nozzle. Residences with less than five acres and addresses ending in even number may water during those times on Thursdays and Sundays. Residents with more than five acres and odd number addresses can irrigate their lawns Wednesdays and Fridays between 12:01 a.m. – 8 a.m. These restrictions will remain in effect until sufficient rainfall is received. For more details about SFWMD water restrictions visit: [www.sfwmd.gov](http://www.sfwmd.gov) or call (800) 250-4100 ext. 3630. For water conservation tips call SFWMD Water Conservation Hotline at (800) 662-8876. To report water violations in the unincorporated part of St. Lucie County contact the county's Code Enforcement Hotline at (772) 370-2545.

### Upcoming Events at the Oxbow Eco-Center

St. Lucie River Tour ~ June 16 from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. ~ Join an Oxbow naturalist for a leisurely paddle down the St. Lucie River. Fee is \$10 per person. Children 5-7 are free. RSVP and prepayment is required.

**Art In Nature Camp** ~ July 9 - July 13 from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. ~ For the artistic nature lover, the Oxbow is offering an Art in Nature 1/2 day camp for ages 11 - 14. Students will learn to observe, see and then express themselves through sketching, painting and 3-dimensional "junk" art. Cost is \$100. For more information, please contact Heidi Vestrem at 772-785-5842.

**Guided Hikes** ~ Every Saturday at 10 a.m. Join an Oxbow naturalist as they lead visitors along a series of trails, discussing the plants and wildlife that live in the different habitats along the North Fork of the St. Lucie River. For more information about all Oxbow Eco-Center events call the staff at (772) 785-5833 or visit [www.stlucieco.gov/erd/oxbow](http://www.stlucieco.gov/erd/oxbow).

Joseph E. Smith, District 1 • Doug Coward, District 2 • Paula A. Lewis, District 3  
Charles Grande, District 4 • Chris Craft, District 5

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